

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/673,498

Examiner

George J. Letscher

Applicant(s)

PENG, WEN-KUAN

Art Unit

2653

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to the filing of 9/23/03.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-14.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on _____ are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

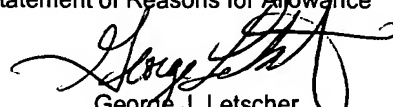
Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____


George J. Letscher
Primary Examiner
Art Unit: 2653

REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

1. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: in claim 1, the optical disk drive having a plurality of vertical drive shafts for clamping trays or optical disks, a thread region having a pitch in the upper thread portion being larger than the lower thread portion, a flat surfaced upright region, combined with a plurality of elastic devices with one end fixed to a top end of the upright region and the other end together with the flat surface for clamping the tray or disk in the range of the upright regions is neither taught nor suggested by the prior art of record. In claim 5, the optical disk drive having a plurality of vertical drive shafts for clamping trays or optical disks, a thread region having a pitch in the lower thread portion being larger than the upper thread portion, a flat surfaced upright region, combined with a plurality of elastic devices with one end fixed on the bottom plate near the driving shaft and the other end provided together with the driving shaft for clamping the tray or disk in the range of the upright regions is neither taught nor suggested by the prior art of record. In claim 9, the shafts having a thread region with threads for engaging the trays or optical disks, with a lower flat surface between the thread region and lower upright region, combined with a plurality of upper and lower elastic devices, the upper with one end fixed to a top end of the upright region and the lower with one end fixed on the bottom plate near the corresponding drive shaft, the other end with the lower flat surface of the corresponding drive shaft for clamping the tray or disks is neither taught nor suggested by the prior art of record. Kletzl (US 6,396,796) and Becker et al (US 6,459,673), while showing

Art Unit: 2653

threaded drive shafts with varying upper and lower pitch threads, do not provide or suggest the plurality of elastic members as described above.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

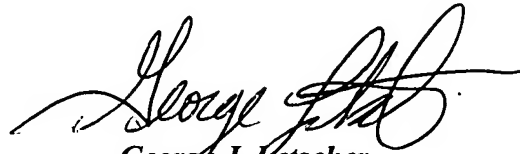
2. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to George J. Letscher whose telephone number is 571-272-7591. The examiner can normally be reached on a Conventional work schedule.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, William Korzuch can be reached on 571-272-7589. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>.

Art Unit: 2653

Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-437-3785 (toll-free).

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "George J. Letscher". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "G" and a stylized "L".

George J. Letscher
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2653

GJL
3/24/05